

Incident Report #2 – Southwestern Wisconsin flooding

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Response and recovery efforts continue in Dane and Iowa counties, as a result of flooding caused by torrential rains earlier this week. Both counties and multiple communities have declared a state of emergency in response to the flooding. Governor Scott Walker has also declared a state of emergency for Dane County.

The governor joined Maj. Gen. Don Dunbar, the state's adjutant general and homeland security advisor, and Wisconsin Emergency Management Administrator Brian Satula on Wednesday for an aerial tour of damage in western Dane and northern Iowa counties. Governor Walker on Thursday also visited with business owners, residents, emergency responders, and volunteers in Black Earth, Mazomanie, and Arena.

Due to concerns about rising lake levels on Lake Mendota, Dane County has begun the process of releasing water downstream through the Tenney Park dam as a preventative measure. This process will cause water levels to rise further downstream on the Yahara River and has resulted in flooding and road closures in portions of downtown Madison. The city is making sand and sand bags available for residents and is encouraging people not to park in low-lying areas.

US Highway 14 from Middleton to Mazomanie in Dane County remains closed, as are numerous other routes in the region. You can find current road closure information at 511wi.gov. Drivers are urged to obey road closure signs and not drive through any standing water they encounter.

Private property owners dealing with flood damage in Dane County should report it to 2-1-1 or 877-947-2211. Business owners should contact their local government and document losses.

The Statewide Emergency Operations Center is currently elevated as the state is monitoring the situation and providing assistance to local emergency responders as requested. Several state agencies have also released information for residents to reference as they work to recover from flood damage.

<http://ready.wi.gov/flooding/AUG2018.asp>